

three resolutions? Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Madam Speaker and members, I just want to speak briefly on all of the award winners here, but especially Tom Allan. I've known Tom perhaps 30 some years ago when I first met him, and I know he's a familiar face throughout Nebraska, especially the small communities. I'm sure most of us, if not all, have read his comments and stories... World-Herald. I think it's helped to draw all Nebraskans closer together, his human interest stories, his areas of concern for others. Of course, his wife, Marilyn, was here in the lobby for many years and I think most of us had come to know her, too. But I especially wanted to single out Tom Allan because I think he's done a lot to draw Nebraskans together and to make us the one state that we are.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Madam President and members of the body, I, too, wanted to stand in support of these resolutions. Lewis Lehr is a native of Elgin, Nebraska, which is in Antelope County in my district. He is singled out many times in our area for his success in the business world. He rose to the top of the 3M Company and he's a well respected and much revered man from our area. I also feel somewhat fortunate to know some of the Petersen family, and I'm very supportive of their selection for this award also. And I'd like to also mention the fact that the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben, in celebrating 100 years of service to this state, I think maybe most people know this but if you don't, Ak-Sar-Ben, the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben have honored farm families across this state for a number of years, farm families who have owned the same property for over 100 years. They do this every year at the county fairs across the state, provide an honor for people who have been stewards of the soil and lived on these same properties for over 100 years, and I think that's a wonderful tradition, and I just hope that we can see that continue. I'd also like to echo what Senator Wehrbein had to say about Tom Allan, I think he's been an excellent emissary for rural Nebraska, as well as urban Nebraska. I think he's done a great deal to bring humor and the human resources that we have together. I think he's been an excellent person for us and I'm glad of his award. I urge your support of all these resolutions today. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Maurstad.